Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for testing a network ~~system~~ device by controlling, by a data controller in [[a]] the network device, communication data transferred between an external device connected to the network device via a network and a plurality of virtual machines in the network device, comprising: a reception step of receiving the communication data; a judgment step of judging whether the received communication data coincides with [[the]] a condition by referring to a test access control list ~~whitch~~ which defines association between a condition ~~eocerning~~ concerning an attribute of the communication data and an action serving as a process of permitting or rejecting communication of the communication data; and an execution step of executing, when it is judged in the judgment step that the communication data coincides with the condition, the process serving as the action in the test access control list.

2. (currently amended) A method for testing a network ~~system~~ device according to claim 1, wherein the condition concerning the attribute of the communication data includes address information for identifying the location on the network of the external device or the network device serving as a transmitter or a receiver of the communication data, and the judgment step includes judgment of whether address information included in the

received communication data coincides with the condition concerning the attribute of the communication data.

3. (currently amended) A method for testing a network ~~system~~ <u>device</u> according to claim 1, further comprising an addition step of adding, to the received communication data, a necessary attribute for judging whether the communication data coincides with the condition in the judgment step.

4. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a network ~~system~~ <u>device</u> testing program for causing a computer to operate as a network device controlling communication data transferred between external devices interconnected via a network, the program causing the computer to perform a process comprising: a reception step of receiving communication data transmitted from one of the external devices or communication data transmitted from a virtual machine in the network device; a judgment step of judging whether the received communication data coincides with [[the]] <u>a</u> condition by referring to a test access control list ~~whitch~~ <u>which</u> defines association between [[a]] <u>the</u> condition ~~eocerning~~ <u>concerning</u> an attribute of the communication data and an action serving as a process of permitting or rejecting communication of the communication data; and an execution step of executing, when it is judged in the judgment step that the communication data coincides with the condition, the process serving as the action in the test access control list.

5. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a network ~~system~~ device testing program according to claim 4, wherein the condition concerning the attribute of the communication data includes address information for identifying the location on the network of the external device or the network device serving as a transmitter or a receiver of the communication data, and wherein the judgment step includes judgment of whether address information included in the received communication data coincides with the condition of the attribute of the communication data.

6. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a network ~~system~~ device testing program according to claim 4, the program further comprising: an attribute adding step of adding, to the received communication data, a necessary attribute for judging whether the communication data coincides with the condition in the judgment step.

7. (currently amended) A network ~~system testing apparatus~~ device for controlling communication data transferred between external devices interconnected via a network, comprising: reception means for receiving communication data transmitted from one of the external devices or communication data transmitted from a virtual machine in the network device; a test access control list ~~whiteh~~ which defines association between a condition ~~eocerning~~ concerning an attribute of the communication data and an action serving as a process of permitting or rejecting communication of the communication data when the communication data coincides with the condition; judgment means for judging,

by referring to the test access control list, whether the received communication data coincides with the condition; and execution means for executing the action in the test access control list when it is judged by the judgment means that the communication data coincides with the condition.

8. (currently amended) A network-~~system testing apparatus~~ device according to claim 7, wherein the condition concerning the attribute(s) of the communication data includes address information for identifying the location on the network of the external device or the network device serving as a transmitter or a receiver of the communication data, and the judgment means judges whether address information included in the received communication data coincides with the condition concerning the attribute(s) of the communication data.

9. (currently amended) A network-~~system testing apparatus~~ device according to claim 7, further comprising attribute adding means for adding, to the received communication data, a necessary attribute for judging, by the judgment means, whether the communication data coincides with the condition.